

Washington Post and ABC News, 84 percent of Americans support requiring utilities to increase their use of wind, solar and other renewable sources of power.

President Obama understands the importance of increasing our use of renewable energy to unleash a clean energy revolution that will get our economy moving again. The States all across the country that have already put similar policies in place understand the need for action. The overwhelming majority of the American people understand it. Now it is time for the Congress to take action to unleash the clean energy revolution by adopting a national renewable electricity standard.

LILLY LEDBETTER FAIR PAY ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2009

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, in my earlier remarks on the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009, I highlighted the first-rate work of AFSCME Council 26, affiliated with the American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees (AFSCME), AFL-CIO, in a sex discrimination lawsuit brought by female custodians against the Architect of the Capitol, which is another way of saying the Congress of the United States of America. The women custodians were being paid one dollar less than their male co-workers. I referred to the female custodians' lawsuit in my remarks because without AFSCME's representation, this discrimination right here in Congress might never have been uncovered, just as Lilly Ledbetter did not discover the equal pay violations until after she retired.

The women's Equal Pay Act lawsuit was historic as well because it was the first class-action under the Congressional Accountability Act that holds Congress to the same employment laws as our constituents. The class was expertly represented by lawyers Barbara Kraft and Sarah Starrett. By getting the women class certified, AFSCME and its lawyers were able to exert maximum leverage and, therefore, negotiate a just settlement with the Architect of the Capitol. The case underscores the importance of undoing the Supreme Court's Ledbetter decision and restoring the long-standing interpretation of the Equal Pay Act. The Congress, the body representing the people, had been systematically and shamefully discriminating against its own workers.

I had been a strong supporter of these women since they first filed their lawsuit. As a former chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, who had responsibility for enforcing the Equal Pay Act, I felt at the time that it was my obligation to bring the female custodians' case to the attention of other Members, and I spoke on the floor about the case in March 2000. I joined AFSCME and the women at a press conference on Equal Pay Day on May 10, 2000, to push for equal pay for these women as well as all other women in the workforce. After the women settled with the government, I was delighted when I was invited to help hand-deliver their settlement checks.

The Ledbetter decision undermined the ability of unions like AFSCME to uncover and pro-

tect workers from discrimination, and I was proud to cite the work of AFSCME, Barbara Kraft, Sarah Starrett and the women custodians of the U.S. Congress as the best evidence of the need for the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, on February 3, 2009, I was absent for three rollcall votes. If I had been here, I would have voted: "Yes" on rollcall vote 47. "Yes" on rollcall vote 48. "Yes" on rollcall vote 49.

TRIBUTE TO TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an important community institution in Mt. Vernon, Illinois.

Trinity Episcopal Church this month celebrated its 100th anniversary. Since the first service was held at 1100 Harrison Street in Mt. Vernon on January 3, 1909, thousands of people have visited Trinity Episcopal to share a worship service with their neighbors. Generations of families in Mt. Vernon and Jefferson County have been welcomed into the congregation at Trinity Episcopal.

Today, Trinity Episcopal is an important part of the spiritual fabric of the community and also serves as a good neighbor to families in need throughout the area. Through a century of the congregation's generosity, many have found a helping hand, warm embrace, and comfort in times of despair.

I want to congratulate Father Gene Tucker of Trinity Episcopal, all members of the congregation, and the extended Trinity Episcopal family on 100 years of service and thank them for the important role they play in our community.

HONORING THOMAS LEE KNOPP

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Thomas Lee Knopp of Platte City, Missouri. Thomas is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 351, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Thomas has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Thomas has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Thomas Lee Knopp for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO MS. MYRA MORGAN

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate one of my constituents, Ms. Myra Morgan of Sparta, Kentucky. On December 9, 2008, Ms. Morgan was awarded the Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award for excellence in education.

Ms. Morgan was notified of her win by Former Kentucky Commissioner of Education Jon Draud, who made the announcement during a surprise assembly at Gallatin County Lower Elementary School. Ms. Morgan has been a teacher at the elementary school for twelve years and is currently the department chair and team leader for the school's kindergarten team. She was one of eighty national winners of the 2009 Milken Educator Award and the only winner from Kentucky.

In May, Ms. Morgan will attend the Milken Family Foundation National Education Conference in California, where she will receive a \$25,000 reward. The Milken Family Foundation was established in 1985, and the first awards were given in 1987. Since 1993, forty-nine Kentuckians have won the award.

Ms. Morgan has inspired countless children, and has been an exceptional leader in the communities of Gallatin County. We are all extremely proud that Ms. Morgan has received the recognition she deserves.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in commending Ms. Myra Morgan for her outstanding service to Kentucky's youth.

TRIBUTE TO MARTHA FLORES

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the work and accomplishments of a distinguished radio journalist and community activist, Martha Flores. Mrs. Flores fled Cuba 50 years ago, on January 17, 1959, and immediately started advocating for her country's freedom as a member of the first anti-Castro organization in exile "La Rosa Blanca". She has since lived and worked in Miami, Florida and is also celebrating her 50th anniversary in journalism.

Mrs. Flores began her radio career as the host of a program on WMIE, the only station at the time that broadcast some programs in Spanish. Throughout the years, she has hosted radio shows on La Fabulosa, Ocean Radio, and WRHC Cadena Azul and for the past 18 years, has produced and hosted a nightly Spanish radio program, "La Noche y Usted" on WAQI Radio Mambi.

Mrs. Flores embodies the American dream and is testament of what can be accomplished

through hard work and dedication. She worked several jobs at once and broke through language and culture barriers to become one of the most listened to radio personalities in Miami. She continues to be an advocate for the cause of a free Cuba. She is also dedicated to working on behalf of the community's children and elderly and is active in animal rights issues. Mrs. Flores has done all of this and much more while also being a loving mother to her son Jose Acosta and wife to her husband Rosendo Soriano.

I recognize my friend Martha Flores for her legacy of hard work, professionalism and service to our community and ask that you join me in expressing our sincere congratulations as she celebrates these important 50 years.

CAMPUS SAFETY ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 748, the "Center to Advance, Monitor, and Preserve University Security Safety Act of 2009" or "CAMPUS". I would like to thank my colleague Congressman BOBBY SCOTT for introducing this important legislation, as well as the Chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, Congressman JOHN CONYERS. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Importantly, H.R. 748 would establish a national center for campus public safety and employ a collaborative effort with local state and federal officials to fight violence on university campuses. This center would train agencies to better deal with emergency situations that occur on university campuses, helping to eliminate unpreparedness at the universities.

The future of our country sits in our classrooms everyday along with those that train them. It is our job as members of Congress to ensure that these future leaders and all those involved in molding them will be taught in a classroom or lecture hall.

H.R. 748 is a bill that takes a great step in ensuring that the potential that is harbored in our classrooms everyday is protected. The events that occurred at Virginia Tech and Northern Illinois University are disastrous examples of why we need more concentrated protection efforts implemented by the Federal government. The Virginia Tech shooting resulted in the slaying of over 30 members of the Virginia Tech family and many others were wounded. The shooting that occurred on the campus of Northern Illinois University on February 14, 2008 also killed and injured several individuals on the campus. Unfortunately, because these events were the first of their kind for the schools, they were not fully knowledgeable on how to respond. In my home state of Texas, the University of Texas at Austin in 1966 was struck by fear when a sniper from atop the university's bell tower struck and killed 16 people and wounded 31. The large gap in time between these events shows the length of inaction by the Congress in establishing a national center to protect the young minds in our Universities.

With the creation of a National Center for Protection of facilities of higher education, our

country can finally begin to use the knowledge gained by officials in all states in conjunction with the Attorney General, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of Education in a collaborative effort to reduce violence in all higher education facilities across the country.

The CAMPUS Safety Act will create a National Center of Campus Public Safety, which will be administered through the Department of Justice. The Center will train campus public safety agencies, encourage research to strengthen college safety and security, and serve as a clearinghouse for the dissemination of relevant campus public safety information. By having this information, institutions of higher education will be able to easily obtain the best information available on ways to keep campuses safe and secure and how to respond in the event of a campus emergency.

The events that have taken place on the campuses of Virginia Tech, Northern Illinois, and Texas Universities shows that campus violence is not regional nor is it specific to one state and we should not be either of these things when fighting against it. That is why we must act as the front line in that battle against campus violence by passing this legislation and developing a National Center for Campus Public Safety. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

CONGRATULATING THE EFFORTS OF U.S. ATTORNEY ROBERT C. BALFE III

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor U.S. Attorney Robert C. Balfe III for his commitment and service to the citizens of this country.

Bob has done a tremendous job at the helm of the Western District of Arkansas, working to bring justice to criminals and initiating programs to make our streets safer.

One of Bob's top priorities has been targeting crimes against children. Indictments of child sexual predators increased by 800% in the Western District of Arkansas in part due to the creation of Project Safe Childhood Task Force which is dedicated to the identification and apprehension of online child sexual predators.

The list of Bob's accomplishments is lengthy, from the successful implementation of an Immigration Crimes Task Force to a Financial Crimes Task Force and an anti-gang initiative. You don't have to look far to see how the citizens of the Western District of Arkansas have benefited from Bob's leadership and vision.

I thank him for a job well done and I thank his wife Jennifer and his young sons, Ryan and Luke for the sacrifices they have made to allow Bob to serve the people of Arkansas.

HONORING JOHNATHON SCOTT KNOPP

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Johnathon Scott Knopp of Platte City, Missouri. Johnathon is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 351, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Johnathon has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Johnathon has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Johnathon Scott Knopp for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

KIDS AND KUBS LOSE PAUL GOOD, THEIR FRIEND AND LEADER

HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, with the beginning of February, Florida prepares for Major League Baseball's spring training practices and games. For Kids and Kubs, St. Petersburg, Florida's Three-Quarter Century Softball League, the season is already halfway over.

This year though, the Kids and Kubs take the field without their President and inspirational leader. Paul B. Good died November 16th at the age of 98. He was the longest-serving President in the club's history.

For those who have never seen a Kids and Kubs game, this is no exhibition game. These are players 75-years-old and up who play competitive softball and they play to win.

Paul Good joined the league when he turned 75 and played through the past three decades. A smile and fierce competitive spirit were just as much a part of his uniform as his red, white and blue cap and his crisp white shirt and pants.

Following my remarks, I will include for the benefit of my colleagues an article by Ron Matus of The St. Petersburg Times about Paul Good entitled "Age Never Slowed This Athlete." It is a fitting tribute to this man who was more than a ball player. He was the best friend of his son Jerry who delighted in their trips together up until their last months.

Madam Speaker, St. Petersburg lost a legend when we lost Paul Good last November. But Paul would be the first to tell his teammates to play on in his absence and that is what they do from November through April at North Shore Park. Join me in tipping a ball cap to Paul as we thank him for his service to the Kids and Kubs, the pride with which he took to the ball field, for his friendship with his teammates, and for his devotion to his family, his son, his four grandchildren, and his three great grandchildren.